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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 10/625,546

Confirmation No. 8197

In re Application of:

Yutaka HIROSE et al.

Group Art Unit: 2811

Filed: July 24, 2003

Examiner: Nitin Parekh

For: CONTACT FORMATION METHOD AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

REQUEST FOR CORRECTION OF USPTO RECORDS  
AND RE-MAILING OF OFFICE ACTION

US Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

On October 16, 2006, Examiner Parekh left a voicemail message on the telephone system of applicants' undersigned attorney inquiring about the status of the above-identified application. On October 20, 2006, applicants' undersigned attorney called Examiner Parekh but did not reach him, and left a voicemail message asking Examiner Parekh to telephone the undersigned in return. On October 20, 2006 at 7:11 P.M., Examiner Parekh telephoned the undersigned leaving a further voicemail message. Today, October 23, 2006, the undersigned telephoned and talked to

Examiner Parekh about the status of this application. In the October 20 message and October 23 telephone conversation with Examiner Parekh, Examiner Parekh stated that the USPTO mailed an Office Action in the above-identified application on March 29, 2006. Applicants' undersigned attorneys never received that Office Action. After being told today by Examiner Parekh about such action, applicants' undersigned attorneys accessed the USPTO PAIR system and obtained, for the first time, a copy of that March 29, 2006 action. We note that that March 29, 2006 Office Action was addressed to the undersigned's former firm, not to the undersigned's present firm.

In that regard, on January 20, 2006 applicants' attorneys, at the present firm, filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) accompanied by an Amendment and accompanied by a document entitled "Change of Correspondence Address," a copy of applicants' attorneys' file copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a copy of applicants' attorneys' postcard receipt which itemizes that "Change of Address," which receipt is stamped with the USPTO "OIPE" mailroom receipt stamp for January 20, 2006, thereby confirming USPTO receipt of the Exhibit A "Change of Correspondence Address" document. That Change of Address document changed the correspondence address for the above-identified application to the address associated with Customer No. 27890, which is the address of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, 1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington DC 20036.

The undersigned's firm also today printed out the USPTO PAIR listing of documents filed in the USPTO in the above-identified application [Exhibit C, attached], which expressly acknowledges the filing of the "Change of Address" on 01-20-2006.

It thus appears that the USPTO failed to mail the March 29, 2006 Office Action to the correspondence address duly established by the January 20, 2006 Change of Address filing by applicants' undersigned attorneys.

In these circumstances, applicants and their undersigned attorneys respectfully request that the USPTO re-mail the March 29, 2006 Office Action to the undersigned's proper postal address, and re-set an entirely new period for response to that Office Action based on current mailing to the correct correspondence address.

With respect to the correspondence address, the undersigned also calls to the attention of the USPTO the fact that a further change of correspondence address was filed in the above-identified application on May 10, 2006. Accordingly, the address to be used in re-mailing the Office Action allegedly mailed March 29, 2006 should be the correspondence address established by the May 10, 2006 Change of Correspondence Address document.

In the event that any one at the USPTO has any question about the facts of this matter and applicants' request for correction of the PTO records and re-mailing of the March 29, 2006 Office Action, they are respectfully requested to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roger W. Parkhurst  
Registration No. 25, 177

Attorney Docket No. 28951.5294



**USPTO RECEIPT FOR INDICATED ITEMS**  
(Please return after date stamping)

Date: January 20, 2006  
Atty. Ref.: 28951.5294

Serial No.: 10/625,546  
Applicant: Yutaka HIROSE et al.  
Filed: July 24, 2003  
Title: Contact Formation Method and Semiconductor Device

Items Enclosed:

Request to Continued Examination (RCE) Ck# 409987 \$790.00  
Amendment  
Change of Address

CAW/ame  
Date Satisfies: 1/20/06



EXHIBIT B



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10/625,546 Contact formation method and semiconductor device

| Application Data | Transaction History | Image File Wrapper | Foreign Priority | Published Documents | Publication Dates | Address Attorney |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
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This application is officially maintained in electronic form. To View: Click the Print: Check the desired document(s) and click StartDownload.

| Mail Room Date | Document Description  | Pa |
|----------------|---|----|
| 05-10-2006     | <a href="#">Change of Address</a>   |    |
| 04-06-2006     | <a href="#">Mail returned to USPTO as undelivered</a>   |    |
| 03-29-2006     | <a href="#">Non-Final Rejection</a>   |    |
| 03-29-2006     | <a href="#">Index of Claims</a>   |    |
| 02-17-2006     | <a href="#">Fee Worksheet (PTO-875)</a>   |    |
| 01-20-2006     | <a href="#">Amendment Submitted/Entered with Filing of CPA/RCE</a>                                    |    |
| 01-20-2006     | <a href="#">Amendment Submitted/Entered with Filing of CPA/RCE</a>                                    |    |
| 01-20-2006     | <a href="#">Claims</a>  |    |
| 01-20-2006     | <a href="#">Applicant Arguments/Remarks Made in an Amendment</a>                                      |    |
| 01-20-2006     | <a href="#">Change of Address</a>   |    |
| 01-20-2006     | <a href="#">Request for Continued Examination (RCE)</a>   |    |
| 10-20-2005     | <a href="#">Final Rejection</a>   |    |
| 10-20-2005     | <a href="#">Index of Claims</a>   |    |
| 10-20-2005     | <a href="#">Search information including classification, databases and other search related notes</a> |    |

SEE →

EXHIBIT C